

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request that the Preliminary Amendment filed March 11, 2004 not be entered in the above-identified application. In particular, the Preliminary Amendment is inadvertently non-compliant with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121. More specifically, as a result of a printing and/or formatting error, at least newly added claim 65 was not included in the Amendment.


In light of the above discussion, prior to an examination of the present application, the Applicants respectfully request entry of this Substitute Preliminary Amendment.

The present Preliminary Amendment is submitted to cancel claims 41-52 and add new claims 53-68.

In the event that the Examiner has any comments or suggestions of a nature necessary to place this case in condition for allowance, then the Examiner is kindly requested to contact Applicant's undersigned Attorney by telephone to promptly resolve any such matters so as to expedite allowance of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Akihiro MIYAZAKI et al.

By: 
Thomas D. Robbins
Registration No. 43,369
Attorney for Applicants

TDR/kes/jlg
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021
Telephone (202) 721-8200
Facsimile (202) 721-8250
May 13, 2004

BEST AVAILABLE COPY